

The Social Services Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that generally meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. The Commission may make recommendations to the City Council on Veterans affairs, homeless issues, adults with development disabilities, and children with special needs. All meetings are open to the public except for those portions that under law may be considered in closed session.

Staff reports are available for review at the Civic Center Main Library and the City Clerk's Office. Direct any other questions or concerns to the Social Services Commission liaison at 310.618.5880. Agendas are posted on the City of Torrance Home Page www.TorranceCA.Gov.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Manager's office at (310) 618-5880. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

TORRANCE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION AGENDA
FEBRUARY 27, 2025
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M. WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission Members Furey, Leys, Pryor, Reynolds, Sansalone, Wright, Chair Bickford

2. FLAG SALUTE: Commissioner Sansalone

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on February 13, 2025

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 15-minute period)

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on items on the Consent Calendar or items not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Commission cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. **No longer than 1 minute per speaker.** If presenting handout material to the Commission, please provide 10 copies to staff before speaking.*

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 23, 2025

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION BY TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDING BRIDGES COLLABORATIVE

7B. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION ON THE DEPARTMENT OF BEACHES AND HARBORS BEACH ACCESS MATS PROGRAM

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. Adjournment of the Social Services Commission Meeting to Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 6:00 pm for a regular meeting in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room



January 23, 2025

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Social Services Commission convened in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, 3031 Torrance Boulevard.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Furey, Leys, Pryor, Reynolds and Chair Bickford

Absent: Commissioners Sansalone and Wright

Also Present: Deputy City Manager Hoang, Staff Liaisons-in Training Candice Lau and Lauren Allen and Veterans Event Coordinator LeAnne Chen

MOTION: Commissioner Pryor moved to approve the excused absence of Commissioner Wright; motion was seconded by Commissioner Furey. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners Sansalone and Wright)

2. FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Bickford.

3. REPORT OF THE STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Staff Liaison-in Training Lau stated that the agenda for the Social Services Commission was properly posted on January 16, 2025 on the Public Notice Board by the City Clerk's office and on the City's website.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Staff Liaison-in Training Lau stated that there were no withdrawn or deferred items but noted that there were supplemental items available of hard copies of the presentation for Item 7A.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 24, 2024

MOTION: Commissioner Pryor moved to approve Item 6A, as submitted; motion was seconded by Commissioner Leys. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners Sansalone and Wright)

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. REVIEW 2024 VETERANS APPRECIATION LUNCHEON AND RESOURCE FAIR AND DISCUSS A 2025 EVENT

Veterans Event Coordinator LeAnne Chen presented the report for the item and noted the following:

- Planning for the event began early in 2024
- Messages and thank you videos for veterans were gathered in September and included in the presentations at the luncheon
- Messages of thanks were also collected from local high schools and in 2025 would include collections from middle and elementary schools
- The event was a full house, both for the veterans and the organizations.
- Received great feedback for the event and the food, with recommendations for next year.
- Some guests participated in open mics
- Special desserts were provided by Pastry Chef Steph
- Presentation of colors by Police Department Honor Guard
- City Proclamation was on display

Veterans Event Coordinator LeAnne Chen discussed possibilities for year-round engagement with veterans in 2025 with LA Fischer House, Ruck for Veterans and Guide Dogs of America and announced the 2025 City Event was November 7, 2025 and the Message a Veteran was scheduled at the Torrance Coastal Cleanup on September 20, 2025. She noted that she hoped that year-round engagement would lead to increased attendance at the Veterans Day event.

The Commission noted:

- Music at event could be more upbeat and include more up to date music
- Sun shades might be useful
- Year-round engagement would be good and increase the sense of community
- Italian food was preferred
- The need to understand how best to lead the veterans to the help they needed
- Needed to find ways to include younger veterans-have discussions/website to determine what could be included, what was needed
- Possibility of Job Fair or help from EDD
- Should have list of events at USS Iowa

A member of the public spoke.

7B. DISCUSS AND APPROVE HOLDING CITY SPONSORED DRIVE FOR STREET OUTREACH AND 3290 TEMPORARY HOUSING

Staff Liaison-in Training Allen presented the report for the item and noted that staff recommended conducting the drive from May 1- May 15. She listed the recommended items for the collection, the location of the collection bins and the methods of publicizing the event.

The Commission determined that the in-person collection was not necessary, and Chair Bickford requested that an email be sent to all Commissions to inform them of the collection dates and drop off locations.

Deputy City Manager Hoang confirmed that the Council was made aware of the collection outcomes and the list of those that had contributed.

Commissioner Pryor reported that she would inform the Chamber of Commerce about the Drive.

There was no public comment.

4MOTION: Chair Bickford moved to hold the City Sponsored Drive for Street Outreach and 3290 Temporary Housing Drive from May 1- May 15, 2025, without an in-person drive collection; motion was seconded by Commissioner Pryor. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners Sansalone and Wright)

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Reynolds noted that the negative image of those experiencing homelessness needed to be corrected and requested that a video be produced to help explain to the public how to use the Torrance App.

Deputy City Manager Hoang explained that the City Clerk could assist a commissioner in waiving their Commission salary.

Staff Liaison-in Training Lau announced that the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count would be held on Thursday, February 20, 2025, and online registration was available. She requested that the Commission members let staff know if they were available to participate.

Deputy City Manager Hoang announced that the joint meeting of the Social Services Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission would be held on February 5, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Garden Room at the Cultural Arts Center.

Deputy City Manager Hoang recognized Veterans Event Coordinator LeAnne Chen for her work and presented her with an Award of Excellence from the City Manager.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:00 p.m., Commissioner Pryor moved to adjourn the meeting to February 5, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. for a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission in the Garden Room at the Cultural Arts Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Furey. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent Commissioners Sansalone and Wright)

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Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

SUBJECT: Accept and File Presentation by Torrance Unified School District Building Bridges Collaborative

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of staff that the Social Services Commission accept and file a presentation from the Torrance Unified School District Building Bridges Collaborative.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Building Bridges is a Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) Student Services project that was developed to streamline and leverage available resources in the district & community to benefit our students. Building Bridges hosts monthly collaborative meetings between district and community staff to most effectively meet the needs of TUSD students & families.

Building Bridges seeks to make a stronger impact on families students of the District, and the community. Parents and staff can refer students for counseling services or inquire about any other resources in the community. Building Bridges connects students and families with district or community resources that can help with specific situations.

This evening, Nancy Gutierrez, Ed.D, TUSD Parent and Community Engagement Coordinator, will be presenting to the Commission. Dr. Gutierrez is a longtime partner to the Commission and to the City.

This evening's presentation will address:

1. Purpose of the Building Bridges Collaborative;
2. Role Building Bridges plays in Torrance Unified School District and the community; and
3. Potential opportunities for the City to be a partner with Building Bridges.

Staff respectfully recommends that your honorable body accept and file this presentation.

Respectfully submitted,



Viet Hoang
Staff Liaison



Lauren Allen
Staff Liaison-In-Training



Candice Lau
Staff Liaison-In-Training

Commission Meeting of
February 27, 2025

Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

**SUBJECT: Accept and File Presentation on the Department of Beaches and Harbors
Beach Access Mats Program**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of staff that the Social Services Commission accept and file a presentation conducted by Commissioner Furey related to the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors Beach Access Mats Program.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

During the February 5, 2025 joint meeting of the Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission and the Torrance Social Services Commission, both Commissions discussed beach access mats for those who happen to be assisted by the use of a wheelchair and other mobility devices. During the discussion, Commissioner Furey noted her role on the County of Los Angeles Beach Commission and offered to present to the Social Services Commission an overview of the Beach Access Mats program.

This evening, Commissioner Furey will present the program to your Honorable Body. Supporting material from the Department of Beaches and Harbors is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Viet Hoang
Staff Liaison



Lauren Allen
Staff Liaison-In-Training



Candice Lau
Staff Liaison-In-Training

Attachment: Beach Access Mats Program Information

BEACH ACCESS MATS



The Department of Beaches and Harbors offers access mats at seven beaches. These mats are made of a synthetic mesh that provides a firmer surface for those who need it to cross the sand, such as people who use wheelchairs or other mobility aids. No special equipment is required. The mats are located at the following beaches:

- Dockweiler State Beach
- Manhattan Beach
- Marina "Mother's" Beach
- Topanga Beach
- Torrance Beach
- Venice Beach (available April through October)
- Will Rogers State Beach
- Zuma Beach (available April through October)

BEACH WHEELCHAIRS

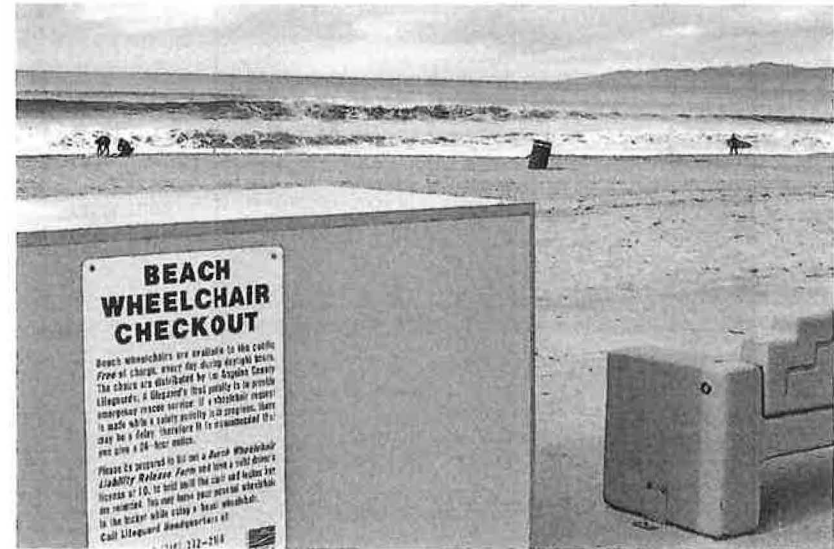
BEACH WHEELCHAIRS

Beach wheelchairs are available for use by the public free of charge at select beaches during daylight hours.

Beach wheelchairs may only be reserved in advance at the Dockweiler Youth Center (more information below). Beach wheelchairs at all other locations are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Availability varies by location.

Please be prepared to fill out a Beach Wheelchair Liability Release Form and leave a valid driver license or ID to hold as collateral until the chair is returned. You may leave your personal wheelchair in the storage locker or facility while using a beach wheelchair.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call (424) 526-7842.



- 📄 [Beach Wheelchair Information Sheet](#)
- 📄 [Beach Wheelchair Liability Release Form](#)



Beach Wheelchair Information Sheet



LOCATION	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	NUMBER OF WHEELCHAIRS	COMMENTS
Zuma Beach Los Angeles County Lifeguard Headquarters	30050 Pacific Coast Hwy. Malibu, CA 90265 Between lots #3 and #4	(310) 457-2525	2	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. No wheelchair ramp over the sand available. ADA parking available in lots #3 and #4. <i>Seasonal access mat available April - October.</i>
Point Dume Los Angeles County Wheelchair Locker	6900 Westward Beach Road Malibu, CA 90265 Wheelchair Locker	(310) 457-2525	1	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. ADA parking is available in lot.
Malibu Surfrider Los Angeles County Lifeguard Locker	23300 Pacific Coast Hwy. Malibu, CA 90265	(310) 457-2525	1	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. No wheelchair ramp over the sand available. ADA parking is available in lot.
Topanga Beach Lifeguard Substation	18704 E. Topanga Beach Road Malibu, CA 90265	(310) 394-3261	1	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Visit lifeguard substation for assistance. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. No wheelchair ramp over the sand available. ADA parking is available at the end of Topanga Beach Drive. Semi-permanent access mat available (weather permitting).
Will Rogers Beach Los Angeles County Lifeguard Headquarters	15100 Pacific Coast Hwy. Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 Lot #2E	(310) 394-3261	2	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. ADA parking available in Lot #2E, entry from Temescal Canyon. Semi-permanent access mat available near parking lot entrance.
Santa Monica Beach Annenberg Community Beach House	415 Pacific Coast Hwy. Santa Monica, CA 90402	(310) 458-4904	2	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Available daily from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Ramp over sand ½ way out only (not to the water). ADA parking available.
Santa Monica Beach Perry's Café	1200 Pacific Coast Hwy. Santa Monica, CA 90403 Lot #3 North	(310) 458-3975 (310) 864-3717	1	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. *Electric wheelchair available daily at this location from 10 a.m. to sunset. Wheelchair ramp available at 2000 Ocean Front Walk, ¼ way out only (not to the water). ADA parking available. Max 2-hour rental.
Santa Monica Beach Perry's Café	2400 Ocean Front Walk Santa Monica, CA 90405 Lot #4 South	(310) 452-7609 (310) 864-3717	2	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Available daily from 8:30 a.m. - sunset. Wheelchair ramp available at 2600 Ocean Front Walk, ¼ way out only (not to the water). ADA parking available. Max 2-hour rental.
Venice Beach Lifeguard Headquarters	2300 Ocean Front Walk Venice, CA 90291	(310) 394-3261	2	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Available daily from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. <i>Seasonal access mat available April - October.</i> ADA parking available.
Marina "Mother's" Beach Beach Wheelchair Locker	4101 Admiralty Way Marina del Rey, CA 90292	(424) 526-7842	2	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Visit the nearest open Lifeguard tower for assistance. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. Wheelchair ramp over the sand to the water is available. ADA parking available.
Dockweiler Youth Center	12505 Vista del Mar Playa del Rey, CA 90293	(310) 726-4128	6	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations recommended. Beach wheelchairs are available daily from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (last wheelchair pick-up is 3 p.m. and must be returned by 4 p.m.). ADA parking and semi-permanent access mat available.
Manhattan Beach Beach Wheelchair Locker	4250 The Strand Manhattan Beach, CA 90266	(310) 372-2166	2	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Visit the nearest open Lifeguard tower or Headquarters for assistance. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. No wheelchair ramp over the sand available. ADA parking and semi-permanent access mat available.
Hermosa Beach Los Angeles County Lifeguard Headquarters	1201 The Strand Hermosa Beach, CA 90254 Public parking lot at 1101 Hermosa Avenue	(310) 372-2166	1	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. No wheelchair ramp over the sand available. ADA parking and semi-permanent rigid ramp available.

Redondo Beach Los Angeles County Lifeguard Headquarters, Avenue C	1101 Esplanade Redondo Beach, CA 90277	(310) 372-2166	1	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. No wheelchair ramp over the sand available. ADA parking available.
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LOCATION	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	NUMBER OF WHEELCHAIRS	COMMENTS
Torrance Beach Beach Wheelchair Locker	389 Paseo del la Playa Torrance, CA 90501	(310) 372-2166	1	Use of beach wheelchair is free and available on a first-come, first-served basis. No reservations. Visit the nearest open Lifeguard tower or Headquarters for assistance. Lifeguards may be out on patrol or on an emergency call and may not always be immediately available to issue or accept a beach wheelchair. Wheelchair ramp over the sand available. ADA parking and semiannual permanent access mat available.

Additional Beach Wheelchair Information:

- Beach Wheelchair is the property of and maintained by the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors. A valid driver license or I.D. is required to check out a Beach Wheelchair, in addition to a completed Liability Release Form.
- Beach Wheelchair is the property of and maintained by the City of Santa Monica. A valid driver license or I.D. is required to check out the Beach Wheelchair. Use of beach wheelchairs are free and available on a first-come, first-served basis.